Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

1820.

ANNUAL MEETING.

At an Annual Meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at Mason's Hall, Boston, 12th of September, A. L. 5820.

PRESENT:

M.E. HENRY FOWLE, . .	Deputy Grand High Priest.
E. JOHN ABBOT, . . .	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" JONATHAN GAGE, . .	Grand Scribe, *pro tem.*
" THOMAS P. JACKSON, .	Grand Treasurer.
" JOHN J. LORING, . .	Grand Secretary.
" WILLIAM BARRY, . .	Grand Marshal.
Rev. and E. PAUL DEAN, . .	Grand Chaplain.
Comp. SETH JOHNSON, . .	Grand Steward.
" SAMUEL DAVIS, . .	" "
" JOHN SCOTT, . . .	" "
" WILLIAM EATON, . .	Grand Tyler.

Past Officers.

E. HENRY PURKETT, E. SAMUEL L. KNAPP,
E. ROBERT LASH.

The following Chapters were represented, viz:—St. Andrew's, King Cyrus, St. John's, Mount Vernon, Washington, King Hiram's, Adoniram, Rising Sun, St. Paul's, Montgomery, and Jerusalem.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form, and several visiters were admitted by vote.

Proceedings of the last Communication were read.

The Committee to investigate the charges against Greenfield and Greenwich Chapters, having reported progress, had leave to sit again, and the former vote was so far amended as to authorize the Committee to send for persons and papers to any place they may think proper.

Voted, That the Grand Chapter proceed to the choice of officers for the ensuing year, at or before half past one o'clock, P. M.

E. Comps. John Abbot, Benjamin Smith and Samuel L. Knapp, were appointed a Committee by vote, to examine the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's accounts and records, and having attended the duty, reported as follows:

The Committee appointed by the M.E. Grand Chapter of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and examine the records of the Grand Secretary, and report a compensation to those officers, respectfully report, that they find the accounts of the Grand Treasurer in exact and conspicuous order, rightly cast and regularly vouched. That there is a balance in his hands of nine hundred and fifty-six dollars and thirty-six cents. That the records of the Grand Secretary are in careful and correct order. The Grand Treasurer, as usual, generously declines receiving any compensation for his services, for which he is entitled to the cordial thanks of the Grand Chapter. Your Committee recommend, considering the duties of the Grand Secretary, that he be allowed the sum of forty dollars, for his services the past year.

Signed. JOHN ABBOT, per order.

Sept. 12, 5820.

Which report was accepted.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the propriety of amending the second and other articles of the Constitution, reported, that in consequence of the death of their chairman, they had not attended to the duty assigned them, whereupon,

Voted, That E. and Rev. Comp. Cheever Felch be added to said Committee, and that they be requested to report at the next Communication.

The following report of the Deputy Grand High Priest was read and accepted. viz:

M.E. and Hon. JAMES PRESCOTT, Esq., *Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts:*

M.E. SIR,—In obedience to your commands (dated Groton, 29th of June, 1820,) to proceed some time in the month of July to the State of Maine, and there to consecrate the Montgomery, New Jerusalem, and Jerusalem Royal Arch Chapters, and install their officers, I have the honor to report:

That in my correspondence with some of the companions of Maine, they expressed a wish that I would visit them a few days previous to the 18th of July, on which day, the first Chapter was to be consecrated; accordingly I arrived at Bath on Thursday, the 13th, and was most cordially received by the companions, who informed me that they had appointed that evening to confer the several degrees on three or four candidates. Thinking it would expedite my business, and supersede the necessity of appointing a committee of examination should I attend, I remained at Bath, and visited the Chapter. Work was done on all the degrees in a very correct and impressive manner; their lectures were consonant to the orders of the Grand Chapter, as were also their by-laws and records. The next day I proceeded to Wiscasset, as I had at first contemplated, was received and entertained in the most friendly and hospitable manner, by M.E. Comp. N. Coffin, Esq. On Monday, 17th, I returned to Bath, in company with Comp. Coffin, and several other respectable companions; during the afternoon a number

of companions arrived from Portland, Hallowell, &c. In the evening the Grand Chapter was formed for the solemnities of the ensuing day, composed of the following companions:—

M.E. Henry Fowle of Boston,	Grand High Priest.
E. Charles Fox of Portland,	Dep. Gr. High Priest.
E. Nathaniel Coffin of Wiscasset,	Grand King.
E. and Rev. G. W. Olney of Gardiner,	Grand Scribe.
Comp. Arthur Shirley of Portland,	Grand Treasurer.
" Jas. Loring Child of Augusta,	Grand Secretary.
Rev. Jno. H. Ingraham of Thomaston,	Grand Chaplain.
Comp. Jos. M. Gerrish of Portland,	Grand Marshal.
" Jesse Robinson of Hallowell,	Gr. Royal Arch Captain.
" Amos Nourse of Hallowell,	Grand Captain of Host.
" Samuel Baker of Portland,	Gr. Principal Sojourner.
" Eleazer Wyer of Portland,	Master of 1st Vail.
" Oliver S. Hartshorn, do.,	Master of 2d Vail.
" Moses Shaw of Wiscasset,	Master of 3d Vail.
" Nehemiah Craw of Portland,	1st Steward.
" John B. Mange of Wiscasset,	2d "
" John Pritchard of Portland,	Tyler.

On Tuesday, the 18th, the Grand Chapter was opened, and at 12 o'clock a grand procession was formed, which was honored by the presence of His Excellency the Governor of Maine, Grand Master of Masons for that State, supported by several Grand Officers, attended by gentlemen of the Clergy, &c., &c., and preceded by a very numerous and respectable body of the fraternity, according to rank. On arriving at the church, the solemnities commenced with appropriate music and prayer; an address was delivered by M.E. Robert P. Dunlap, Esq., in which were beautifully delineated the social and benevolent principles of Free Masonry. Montgomery Chapter was then consecrated by the Grand Chaplain, and the officers installed by the corresponding Grand Officers, with appropriate charges. The ceremonies closed with music and prayer, when a procession was again formed, and proceeded to Mason's Hall, where they partook of a bountiful entertainment, after which the masonic number of sentiments were drank, and the company

separated well pleased with each other, and with themselves. The Grand Chapter then received a very polite invitation from his Excellency to take tea at his seat, where they were received with his usual politeness and hospitality. The day was fine, and brotherly love and good fellowship universally prevailed.

On Wednesday, the 19th, the fraternity assembled at Mason's Hall, in Wiscasset. Having had an opportunity on my first arrival from Bath, at this place, to witness the work and lectures on the several degrees, and also to examine the by-laws and records of the New Jerusalem Chapter, and finding them perfectly correct, no necessity for a committee of examination existed; this therefore having been declared, a grand procession was formed, in which also His Excellency the Governor of Maine, his attendants, the Clergy, and other gentlemen of distinction were accommodated, at church, as at Bath. The ceremonies of consecration, installation, &c., were impressive and dignified. The address by M.E. Comp. Coffin, was calculated to impress on the minds of the craft, and a numerous and brilliant audience, the moral and religious influence of the science of Free Masonry on the human mind, and on society universally. After the services of the sanctuary were closed, the whole repaired to the hall of refreshment, and partook of a sumptuous dinner, served up in a superior style, and composed of all the delicacies which the season afforded. At an early hour the company separated in harmony and good fellowship, His Excellency the Governor expressing a wish to accompany the Grand Chapter to Hallowell, but was prevented by business.

Before the company retired from the table, E. Comp. Abiel Wood, Esq., invited the Grand Chapter to take tea at his house in the evening, where they were received and entertained with that urbanity and hospitality which so eminently distinguishes the inhabitants of this interesting section of our country.

The following companions composed the Grand Chapter at Wiscasset, on July 19, 1820:

M.E. Henry Fowle of Boston,	Grand High Priest.
E. Charles Fox of Portland,	Dep. Gr. High Priest.

E. Robert P. Dunlap of Brunswick,	Grand King.
" Gideon W. Olney of Gardiner,	Grand Scribe.
Comp. Arthur Shirley of Portland,	Grand Treasurer.
" Jas. Loring Child of Augusta,	Grand Secretary.
Rev. Jno. H. Ingraham of Thomaston,	Grand Chaplain.
Comp. Jos. M. Gerrish of Portland,	Grand Marshal.
" William P. Davis of Lisbon,	Grand R. A. Captain.
" Amos Nourse of Hallowell,	Grand Captain of Host.
" Samuel Baker of Portland,	Gr. Principal Sojourner.
" Eleazer Wyer of Portland,	Master of 1st Vail.
" Oliver S. Hartshorn, do.,	Master of 2d Vail.
" Jesse Robinson of Hallowell,	Master of 3d Vail.
" Nehemiah Craw of Portland,	1st Grand Steward.
" L. Q. C. Bowles of Boston,	2d " "
" John Pritchard of Portland,	Tyler.

Thursday, 20th, arrived at Hallowell at 5 P. M., having been most cordially received and entertained at dinner, at the beautiful seat of the M.E. and Rev. G. W. Olney of Gardiner, High Priest elect of the Chapter at Hallowell. Here also I found a Chapter was to be opened for business this evening, but being much fatigued and a little indisposed, I commissioned M.E. Comps. Charles Fox, Robert P. Dunlap and Nathaniel Coffin, Esqrs., to visit Jerusalem Chapter, examine their work, lectures and records, and report to me at 8 o'clock the next morning. A copy of their commission and their report, accompany this.

On Friday, the 21st, at 11 o'clock, A. M., the brethren assembled at the Masonic Hall, at Hallowell, the Grand Chapter having been previously organized, was opened in due form, composed of the following companions:

M.E. Henry Fowle of Boston,	Grand High Priest.
E. Charles Fox of Portland,	Dep. Gr. High Priest,
" Rorert P. Dunlap of Brunswick,	Grand King.
" Nathaniel Coffin of Wiscasset,	Grand Scribe.
" Arthur Shirley of Portland,	Grand Treasuer.
" John H. Shepard of Wiscasset,	Grand Secretary.

Rev. Charles Virgin of Bath,	Grand Chaplain.
Comp. Jos. M. Gerrish of Portland,	Grand Marshal.
" W. O. Davis of Lisbon,	Grand R. A. Captain.
" Abiel Wood of Wiscasset,	Grand Captain of Host.
" Samuel Baker of Portland,	Gr. Principal Sojourner.
" Eleazer Wyer of Portland,	Master of 1st Vail.
" Oliver S. Hartshorn, do.,	Master of 2d Vail.
" Moses Shaw of Wiscasset,	Master of 3d Vail.
" Nehemiah Craw of Portland,	1st Grand Steward.
" L. Q. C. Bowles of Boston,	2d " "
" John Pritchard of Portland,	Tyler.

At 12 o'clock, a grand procession was formed, composed of a great number of brethren of the different grades of Masonry, from Hallowell, and the neighboring towns. On arriving at the church, we found the seats that were not appropriated to the fraternity, filled with the finest specimens of beauty and fashion. The ceremonies here, profiting by the repetition of the solemnities on the 18th and 19th, were peculiarly interesting and impressive. The address by M.E. Comp. Lawrence Sprague, M. D., on the origin and importance of the Royal Arch degree, was highly appropriate, interesting and instructive, especially to the members of that degree. After the solemnities were completed, the whole was conducted to a spacious green bower, erected for the purpose, on a beautiful and commanding eminence, and most tastefully decorated, where everything which could tempt the appetite, or satisfy the mind, presented themselves; for all the luxuries of the season were there to gratify the former, and the most interesting and respectable society to improve the latter. In the evening this delightful bower was fancifully illuminated, and honored by the presence of the ladies, and a great number of gentlemen, who witnessed a brilliant display of fire works, given in honor of the occasion.

During my visit, I have had the pleasure to confer the Order of High Priesthood on M.E. Charles Fox, N. Coffin, R. P. Dunlap, Rev. G. W. Olney, and L. Sprague, M. D.

Thus, Most Excellent, have I endeavored to discharge the duties of the commission with which you were pleased to honor me, and

was everywhere received with all that respect and deference due to the representative of the Grand Chapter, with all that brotherly love and friendship which the craft so well know how to afford, and with all that urbanity and polite attention which so eminently distinguish the citizens of Maine in their deportment to strangers. I hope I shall not be charged with invidious partiality, if I declare that the personal attentions I received from M.E. Comp. Nathaniel Coffin, at Wiscasset, and E. Comp. McLellan, of Bath, have made an impression on my heart which will never be effaced; at the beautiful cottage of the former, I was an inmate several days, and which I have reason to regard among the happiest days of my life; and the latter, generously made me an offer of his elegant mansion, for the accommodation of myself and the Grand Chapter. At Hallowell also, I was most hospitably entertained and lodged at the house of Comp. G. Farrel, Esq.; and permit me to add, Most Excellent, that I can assure you, that the honor and interests of Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Maine, are in most worthy hands and safe keeping, and so long as they continue their protection, example and exertions, no innovations or mutilations will be permitted, but harmony, prosperity and happiness will attend the craft in that state.

With the highest respect,
I have the honor to be,
Most Excellent,
Your obedient humble servant,

HENRY FOWLE,
Dep. Grand High Priest, Mass.

To Henry Fowle, Esquire, Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts,

GREETING:

Reposing special trust and confidence in your Masonic talents and abilities, I do hereby appoint and commission you to proceed to the State of Maine, at such time in the month of July next as

may be convenient, then and there to examine by committee or otherwise, the officers, the by-laws, and the records of the Jerusalem, the New Jerusalem, and the Montgomery Royal Arch Chapters; and if found correct, you are hereby authorized to consecrate the said Chapters, and instal their officers in due form.

In the inspection of their work and lectures, should you find any innovations or deviations from the rules established by the Grand Chapter, you will correct the same, as uniformity of work and lectures is an object most worthy to be preserved.

You are hereby also authorized to select such Royal Arch Masons as you may deem proper to fill the various offices necessary to compose a Grand Royal Arch Chapter; and all your doings in the above premises shall be valid, and you will make an exact return of them to me, as soon as possible.

Given under my hand and seal at Groton, this 29th day of June, Anno Domini, 1820.

JAMES PRESCOTT, *Grand High Priest of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Mass.*

Attest: JOHN J. LORING, *Gr. Sec'y.*

To the M.E. Comps. Charles Fox, Robert P. Dunlap, and Nathaniel Coffin, Esq'rs.

COMPANIONS,

You are hereby appointed a Committee to visit Jerusalem Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Hallowell, previous to the 21st instant, and in open Chapter to examine their By-Laws, records, mode of work, lectures, and manner of government, as practised by their officers, and report to me on Friday next, at or before 8 o'clock, A. M., and this shall be your warrant for so doing.

Given at Gardiner, this 20th day of July, 1820.

HENRY FOWLE,
Dep. Grand High Priest, Mass.

HALLOWELL, July 21, 1820.

M.E. Comp. HENRY FOWLE, Esq.,

SIR,—The undersigned, conformably to the duty assigned them by your commission, visited Jerusalem Chapter, last evening, and have the honor to report:

That they found the officers well instructed in the modes of work, and lectures of the degrees; their officers and members zealous in the performance of their several duties, and no doubt is entertained of their ability to give success to the Chapter, and fulfil the expectations of the Grand Chapter.

They find the by-laws are in conformity to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and their records are in a correct and neat style, which reflects the highest honor on their Secretary.

Your Committee therefore recommend their Chapter to be consecrated, and their officers installed, agreeably to the prayer of their petition.

We have the honor to be,

Most Respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

Signed, CHARLES FOX, ROB'T P. DUNLAP, NATH'L COFFIN, } *Committee.*

The time having arrived for the choice of officers, the Grand Chapter resolved themselves into a committee of the whole—M.E. John Abbot in the chair; E. Comps. S. L. Knapp, Samuel Baxter, and Cheever Felch were appointed to collect, count, and declare the votes.

M.E. Comp. Henry Fowle was chosen Grand High Priest, but declining the office, the companions proceeded to a new

choice, and M.E. Comp. JONATHAN GAGE of Newburyport, was elected, and M.E. Comps. Fowle, Knapp, Purkett, were appointed to inform him of his election, and request his acceptance of the office; they having attended to the duty, reported, that he accepted, and he was introduced.

The other officers were then voted for, and the following companions were elected, viz:

E. Comp. CALEB BUTLER of Groton,	Grand King.
Rev. Comp. JAS. MORSS* of Newburyport,	Grand Scribe.
E. Comp. THOMAS P. JACKSON of Boston,	Grand Treasurer.
" " JOHN J. LORING of Boston,	Grand Secretary.

*Printed Morse in the Proceedings of 1864.

The Committee then rose and reported the foregoing elections, which being approved by the Grand Chapter, M.E. Comp. Jonathan Gage was installed as Grand High Priest, and the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were sworn to a faithful discharge of their several duties.

On motion of E. Comp. Samuel L. Knapp,

Voted, That the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts raise a Committee of three, to prepare in the name of the Grand Chapter a letter of condolence to the widow and family of our late beloved Companion, Andrew Sigourney, Esq., deceased.

E. Comps. S. L. Knapp, Paul Dean, and Cheever Felch were appointed a Committee for the foregoing purpose.

On motion, *Voted*, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be presented to M.E. Comps. James Prescott and Henry Fowle for their services the past years.

Voted, That the thanks of the Grand Chapter be presented to M.E. Comp. John Abbot for his services as chairman of the committee of the whole.

Voted, That this meeting be now adjourned to meet again in this place, at 6 o'clock P. M.

At 6 o'clock P. M., the companions re-assembled, and the Grand Chapter was again organized as before.

The following appointments were made, and the officers present were regularly installed.

E. Comp. Samuel L. Knapp of Boston,	Dep. G. High Priest
E. " William Barry of Boston,	Grand Marshal.
Rev. and E. Paul Dean, . . .	Grand Chaplain.
" " Ezekiel L. Bascom, .	" "
" " Gideon W. Olney, . .	" "
" " Samuel Osgood, . .	" "
Comp. Michael Roulstone, . .	Grand Steward.
" Daniel Baxter, Jr., . .	" "
" John Scott, ...	" "
" John Cook, ...	" "
" Stephen S. Hodge, . . .	Gr. Inside Sentinel.
" William Eaton, . . .	Grand Tyler.
" Joseph Currier, . . .	" "

On motion, *Voted*, That a sum not exceeding sixty dollars be appropriated for the ensuing year by the Grand Chapter for the purposes of charity; and that a Committee of three be appointed to unite with the general charitable Committees in Boston, in the distribution of this sum.

E. Comps. Paul Dean, Joseph Baker, and Michael Roulstone, were appointed a Committee for the above purpose.

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be a Committee to provide a place for the future meetings of the Grand Chapter.

E. Comps. Knapp, Fowle, and Felch, were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the subject of Diplomas, and if in their opinion, a new design would be necessary, to employ an artist to draft one appropriate to the degree, and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the expenses of such draught.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a suitable book of record, for the future proceedings of the Grand Chapter.

Lectures on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees were given, and the Grand Chapter closed.

Attest,

JOHN J. LORING,
Grand Secretary.

STATED COMMUNICATION.

At a Stated Communication of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, held at Mason's Hall, in Boston, on Tuesday evening, December 12th, A. L. 5820.

Present:

M.E. Jonathan Gage, . .	Grand High Priest.
E. Samuel L. Knapp, . .	Deputy Grand High Priest.
" Henry Fowle, . .	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" Joshua Greenleaf, .	Grand Scribe, *pro tem.*
" Thomas P. Jackson, .	Grand Treasurer.
" John J. Loring, . .	Grand Secretary.
" William Barry, . .	Grand Marshal.
Comp. Daniel Baxter, Jr., .	Grand Steward.
" William Eaton, . .	Grand Tyler.

M.E. Comp. John Abbot, Past Grand High Priest.

The following Chapters were represented, viz: — St. Andrew's, King Cyrus, King Solomon's, Washington, King Hiram's, Adoniram, Morning Star, Franklin, and St. Paul's.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form, and the records of the last meeting were read and approved.

A communication from A. H. Palmer, Grand Chancellor of the Grand Consistory, &c., of New York, was read and placed on file.

A petition from Comp. John Edson and others, to open and hold a Chapter, &c., at Stoughton, in the County of Norfolk, to be named Mount Zion Chapter, was read and committed to E. Comps. John Abbot. Henry Purkett, and Cheever Felch, who, having attended to the duty assigned them, reported in favor of their application, which report was accepted.

E. Comp. James Morss appeared and was regularly installed into the office of Grand Scribe.

The following petition was read, viz :

To the M.E. High Priest, Excellent Officers, and Worthy Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts.

The Franklin Royal Arch Chapter by the undersigned, their Committee, appointed for this purpose, humbly represent, that this Chapter is located within twenty miles of the Chapter in Brattleborough, Vermont; that the fees demanded in that Chapter and others in that State, for all the degrees we confer, are considerably less than we are required to receive by your Laws and Regulations for conferring the same; that these circumstances embarrass our proceedings, and hinder our prosperity, at the same time they affect the revenues of the Grand Chapter, inasmuch as Masonic brethren who wish to receive the sublime degrees, residing as nigh or perhaps nigher to us that the Brattleborough Chapter, find it for their interest to receive the degrees in that Chapter rather than from us, though residing within your jurisdiction, and in all other respects having their Masonic relation and fellowship with us, and inclined by every motive but that of economy, to be exalted in our

Chapter. This state of things, connected with the fact that a neighboring Chapter under this jurisdiction has, in some instances, conferred the degrees on brethren residing in a town adjacent to us, without a recommendation from us, and for a sum in fact less than the legal fees, has lessened our work and revenue, and wounded our Masonic feelings.

As a partial relief from these embarrassments, the undersigned, in behalf of this Chapter pray the Grand Chapter to pass a law or adopt some regulation, that shall enable this Chapter to exalt candidates residing within this jurisdiction, and within twenty miles of any Chapter in Vermont, on the same terms, or for the same fees, that are required under the Vermont jurisdiction, which we understand to be twenty-five dollars.

Dated at Greenfield, this 7th day of December, A. L. 5820.

HOOKER LEAVITT,
THOMAS W. RIPLEY,
THOMAS GILBERT,
ANSEL PHELPS,
GEO. GRENNELL, JR.,
} *Committee.*

Voted, That the foregoing petition, together with the consideration of amending the 12th article of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, be committed to E. Comp. R. Lash, N. Peabody, J. Greenleaf, D. Baxter, and B. Chapin, who reported as follows :

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Franklin R. A. Chapter, "praying the Grand Chapter to pass a law or adopt a regulation, that shall enable them to exalt candidates residing within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and within twenty miles of any Chapter in Vermont, on the same terms that are required under Vermont jurisdiction; and also to whom was referred the expediency of altering the 12th article of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter generally, and report thereon," beg leave respectfully to report: That the further consideration of the petition

of Franklin Chapter be indefinitely postponed; and recommend that the 12th article be so amended, that the words "thirty-one" be struck out, and that the words "twenty-five" be substituted instead.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT LASH, per order.

December 12, 1820.

Voted, That the consideration of the above report be postponed till the next regular Communication.

Voted, That the subject of altering the 12th article of the Constitution be communicated to the several Chapters in this jurisdiction, and request that each Chapter take the subject into consideration, and report their opinion thereon, by their representatives, at the Communication in June next.

The following report was read and accepted, and the Committee were allowed to continue their sittings, as it respects the charges against the Chapter at Greenwich:

The Committee to whom was referred the charges against the Franklin Chapter, situated at Greenfield, having notified the officers of said Chapter that they would meet them at Mason's Hall, Boston, on Tuesday the 12th December, at 3 o'clock, P. M., and hear a statement of the transactions of their Chapter, attended accordingly, and at the time and place above mentioned had the pleasure to meet the Rev. Comp. Titus Strong, and Elijah Alvord, Esq., both Past High Priests of said Chapter, who brought the records and by-laws of the Chapter for the inspection of the Committee.

Your Committee, having heard their statement of facts, and having also critically examined the records and by-laws of said Chapter, feel much satisfaction in being able to report, that the conduct of Franklin Chapter is irreproachable; that there is no foundation for any of the charges that have been preferred against them,

that their records and by-laws are correct, and that, in the opinion of your Committee, Franklin Chapter is worthy of the high consideration, affection, and protection of this Grand Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL L. KNAPP.
HENRY FOWLE.
HENRY PURKETT.

BOSTON, 12th Dec., 1820.

The following communication from M.E. Charles Fox, High Priest of Mount Vernon Chapter, at Portland, was read and placed on file:

PORTLAND, November 29th, 1820.

M.E. COMPANION,

The officers of the several Royal Arch Chapters in the State of Maine, have it in contemplation to organize a Grand Chapter in said State, and have requested me to communicate their wishes to M.E. Comp. Henry Fowle, Esq., Deputy General Grand High Priest, and obtain his approbation, conformable to the 11th section of the 2d article of the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America. Should their request be favorably received, the officers of the several Chapters will assemble in convention at Portland, on Wednesday, the 7th day of February, 1821, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Chapter for the State of Maine.

I have to request you will make this communication known to the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Massachusetts, at their next meeting, in December, observing, that this step does not originate from any disquietude in longer remaining under their government, but from its incompatibility with the 13th section of the 2d article of the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution, in consequence of the alteration in our political relations.

For the Parent Grand Chapter, from which we have emanated, we shall always cherish the most lively remembrance; our best

wishes for their prosperity will attend them, and our earnest desire that the long and uninterrupted harmony which has existed, may be perpetuated, until we shall all at length arrive within the veil, where our Supreme High Priest presides.

I am, Dear Sir, with respect and fraternal regard,

Yours, &c.,

CHARLES FOX, *High Priest*
of Mt. Vernon Chapter, Portland.

JOHN J. LORING, Esq., *Gr. Sec'y*
of the Gr. R. A. Chapter of the State of Massachusetts.

The following report of the Grand Treasurer was read, viz:

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of providing a suitable place for the future meetings of the Grand Chapter, having attended the duty assigned him, asks leave to report:

That the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in their corporate capacity, (by their Committee,) have made arrangements with the Selectmen of the town of Boston, to take the rooms above the first story in the old State House for ten years, at a rent of $600 per annum, and the same are now fitting up for the purpose of a Masonic Hall, under the direction of a Committee of the Grand Lodge, and a Special Committee appointed by the General Committee of the several Masonic Societies, to assist in carrying the same into effect.

Extract from the Records of the General Committee.

At a meeting of the Committee of the General Sub-Committee of the respective Masonic Institutions in Boston, to devise ways and means to meet the expenses of fitting up the rooms in the old State House, October 21, 1821:

Voted, That the several lodges and Masonic bodies be requested to advance the sums of money as hereafter stated, towards repairing and fitting up of said rooms, and that if it is not convenient

for any of said societies to pay the sum annexed to their names below, they be requested to give a note for said sum to the Grand Treasurer of the M. W. Grand Lodge, bearing interest from 1st of October, 1820, viz:

Grand Lodge,	$300
Grand Chapter,	160
Encampment of K. T.,	100
Council of R. Masters,	40
St. Andrew's Chapter,	200
St. Paul's Chapter,	200
St. John's Lodge,	200
St. Andrew's Lodge,	200
Massachusetts Lodge,	200
Columbian Lodge,	200
Mount Lebanon Lodge,	200
	$2,000

Signed, E. MORSE, per order.

Attest: G. COBB, *Sec'y.*

All which is respectfully submitted,

THOMAS P. JACKSON, *Committee.*

December 12th, 1820.

Voted, That the above report be accepted, and that the future meetings of the Grand Chapter (when in Boston), shall be held in the hall now fitting up in the old State House, and the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the sum named in his report to the Grand Treasurer of the M. W. Grand Lodge, and such further sums as may be necessary for the completion of said object.

On motion, *Voted*, That no article in the Constitution of this Grand Chapter shall be altered except at an annual meeting thereof, unless the alteration shall have been proposed at a previous meeting.

The following report was read and accepted, viz:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the second and other articles of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, relating to the time and place of the meetings of the said Grand Chapter, beg leave to report, that no alterations appear necessary, except that the Grand Chapter shall meet on the Tuesdays preceding the second Wednesdays in September, December and June.

Signed, HENRY PURKETT, JONA. GAGE, CHEEVER FELCH, } *Committee.*

Boston, Dec. 12, 1820.

Lectures on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees were given and the Grand Chapter closed.

Attest,

JOHN J. LORING,
Grand Secretary.

STATED COMMUNICATION.

At a Stated Communication of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at Mason's Hall, Boston, on Tuesday evening, 12th of June, A. L. 5821.

PRESENT:

M.E. JONATHAN GAGE, . .	Grand High Priest.
E. SAMUEL L. KNAPP, . .	Deputy Grand High Priest.
" HENRY FOWLE, . .	Grand King.
" JOSHUA GREENLEAF, .	Grand Scribe.
" THOMAS P. JACKSON, .	Grand Treasurer.
" JOHN J. LORING, . .	Grand Secretary.
Rev. and E. EZEKIEL L. BASCOM,	Grand Chaplain.

Comp. MICHAEL ROULSTONE. ,	Grand Steward.
" SETH JOHNSON, . .	" "
" WM. EATON, . . .	Grand Tyler.
E. HENRY PURKETT, . .	Past Grand Scribe.
M.E. E. DEAN, ...	Delegate from N. H.

Chapters Represented: St. Andrew's, King Cyrus, King Hiram's, Rising Sun, and St. Paul's.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form.

Records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The report on the petition of Franklin Chapter, and on the 12th article of the Constitution was read, and the consideration of the same was postponed until the next annual Communication.

The Committee on the subject of the charges against the Chapter at Greenwich, having had some conversation with the parties, reported progress, and had leave to sit again, E. Comp. Henry Fowle, having been previously added to said Committee.

The Committee on Diplomas reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

Voted, That Comps. Michael Roulstone, Henry Fowle, and John J. Loring, be a Committee to examine the regalia, &c., belonging to this Grand Chapter, and to provide such articles as they may think proper, and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the bills of the same.

The following resolve from St. Paul's R. A. Chapter, at Boston, was read and committed to E. Comps. Henry Fowle, S. L. Knapp, R. Lash, P. Dean, and H. Purkett.

In St. Paul's Chapter, Jan. 16th, 5821.

Resolved, That the council of St. Paul's Royal Arch Chapter at the next meeting of the Grand Chapter, be a Committee to request a decision of the question, whether the dispensation of the Grand Officers in regard to candidates standing proposed over one regular meeting, extends to the dispensation of the names being inserted in the notifications of Subordinate Chapters.

A true extract from the records,

Attest, William Palfrey,
Secretary of St. Paul's R. A. Chapter.

The following communication from the Grand Chapter in Maine was read, viz:—

Portland, March 21, 1821.

To the Grand Chapter of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

M.E. Companions,—It is with no ordinary degree of satisfaction that we have the pleasure of announcing to our parent Grand Chapter, that the Grand Chapter of Maine is now duly and constitutionally organized, by the election and appointment of such officers as the ancient usages of Masonry require. In discharging this pleasing duty, we should be callous to every refined feeling, did we refrain from tendering to you our warmest acknowledgments for your friendly partiality, which has encouraged our progress, and for that paternal and unceasing care for our improvement, which has been dictated solely by your ardent attachment to the principles of our Order. Although we are now removed from your jurisdiction, yet by indulging a retrospect of the pleasures we have experienced while under your care, and of the friendships we have mutually contracted, shall not memory often recur to the calm, the beloved scenes, where hand in hand we have pursued the round of mystic duty, and with no less delight listened to the attractive voice of wisdom and of science? It is true the curtain of separation has been drawn, yet in taking leave of each other, shall we not be supported by the pleasing reflection, that we are mutually engaged in the same good cause, in forming the mind to usefulness and to virtue; and shall we not draw more closely those cords, which bind together the members of our fraternity?

It is our united wish that the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts may long continue a distinguished pillar in supporting the great fabric of Masonry, and that all its benevolent exertions may be crowned with success; may its members grow up strong and healthy, and their union be cemented by brotherly love; and when time with them shall be no longer, may they rest on the firm basis of the Christian's hope, and finally be admitted to participate in the honors of the celestial temple above.

In behalf of the Grand Chapter of Maine,
We are very fraternally,
your Friends and Companions,

Charles Fox,
R. P. Dunlap,
Nath. Coffin,
Committee of Grand Chapter of Maine.

On motion, *Voted*, That the above communication from the Grand Chapter of Maine, be referred to a Committee, who shall be directed to return an answer to the same, expressive of the satisfaction of this Grand Chapter, at the establishment of a Grand Chapter in the State of Maine, and our best wishes for their prosperity and happiness.

E. Comps. Samuel L. Knapp, Henry Purkett, and Henry Fowle, were appointed a Committee to carry the above vote into effect.

Lectures on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees were given, and the Grand Chapter closed.

Attest,

JOHN J. LORING,
Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a Special Meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at Stoughton, in the County of Norfolk, Aug. 22d, A. L. 5821, for the purpose of dedicating and installing the officers of Mount Zion Chapter.

PRESENT:

M.E. JONATHAN GAGE,	Grand High Priest.
E. HENRY FOWLE,	Grand King.
" HENRY PURKETT,	Grand Scribe.
" SAMUEL HOWE,	Grand Treasurer, *pro tem.*
" JOHN J. LORING,	Grand Secretary.
Rev. and E. RICH'D CARRIQUE,	Grand Chaplain.
E. WILLIAM BARRY,	Grand Marshal.
Comp. MICHAEL ROULSTONE,	Grand Steward.
" DANIEL BAXTER, Jr.,	" "
" ASA BUGBEE,	Grand R. A. Captain.
" JOSHUA FLAGG,	Gr. Principal Sojourner.
" SAMUEL WALES,	Grand Captain of Host.
" GALEN HOLMES,	Grand Master of Vail.
" SETH JOHNSON,	" " "
" WILLIAM BITTLE,	" " "
" AARON KINGSBURY,	Bearer of Great Lights.
" WILLIAM EATON,	Grand Tyler.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form, and the following commission and report were read, viz:

To the M.E. Comps. Henry Fowle,
Henry Purkett, and John J. Loring:

You are hereby appointed a Committee to visit Mount Zion Chapter, and agreeably to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, you will, in open Chapter, examine their work, records, by-laws, and the qualifications of the officers, respecting their knowledge of the degrees, and their abilities to conduct the government of said

Chapter; and you will report your doings to me on the 22d inst., at Stoughton, before the assembling of the Grand Chapter, and this shall be your warrant for so doing.

Given under my hand at Stoughton, this 22d day of Aug., 1821.

JONATHAN GAGE,
Grand High Priest.

To the M.E. JONATHAN GAGE, Esq., *Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts:*

M.E. SIR,—The Committee (honored by your appointment) to examine the records, by-laws, work, &c., of Mount Zion Chapter, have attended to the duty assigned them, and ask leave to report, that their records appear to be correctly kept; their by-laws are also correct, and consonant to the laws of the Grand Constitution; and from the well-known Masonic knowledge of the officers and the zealous exertion of their talents to promote the honor and respectability of the institution, your Committee have no doubt that the honor of the Order will be in safe keeping, while in their hands. Your Committee do, therefore, most cheerfully recommend that the said Mount Zion Chapter be consecrated on the 22d inst., and their officers installed agreeably to their request.

All which is respectfully submitted by

HENRY FOWLE,
HENRY PURKETT,
JOHN J. LORING.

The above report was accepted, and it was unanimously *Voted*, That the Grand Chapter do now proceed as therein recommended, to consecrate Mount Zion Chapter and install its officers.

A procession was then formed under the direction of the Grand Marshal, and proceeded to the Meeting House where Mount Zion Chapter was solemnly consecrated and their officers installed in ample and ancient form, and an appro-

priate address was delivered by Rev. Comp. Joseph Richardson. The Grand Chapter was then escorted to their room, and having closed in due form, and with the companions and brethren, partaken of an excellent entertainment prepared by Comp. A. Capen, separated at an early hour in harmony and good fellowship.

The following were installed as officers of Mount Zion Chapter for the current year, viz:

M.E. JOHN EDSON, . . .	High Priest.
E. ELIJAH ATHERTON, . .	King.
" THOMAS TOLMAN, . .	Scribe.
Comp. ROYAL TURNER, . .	Treasurer.
" ARTEMAS KENNEDY, .	Secretary.
" JONATHAN REYNOLDS, .	Royal Arch Captain.
" DAVID MANLEY, . .	Captain of Host.
" TIMOTHY DORMAN, . .	Principal Sojourner.
" JOEL TALBOT, . .	Master of 1st Vail.
" SILAS ALDEN, Jr., . .	Master of 2d Vail.
" ISAAC SPEAR, . .	Master of 3d Vail.
" LEONARD ALDEN, . .	1st Steward.
" LEONARD KINSLEY, .	2d "
" RICHARD TALBOT, . .	Tyler.

Attest,

JOHN J. LORING,
Grand Secretary.

The following is a list of the Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts.

ST. ANDREW'S, Boston,	*Established previously*	
KING CYRUS, Newburyport,	*to the Grand Chapter.*	
ST. JOHN'S, Groton,	Charter dated	5803
MOUNT VERNON, Portland,	do.	5805
KING SOLOMON'S, Charlton,	do.	5805
WASHINGTON, Salem,	do.	5811
KING HIRAM'S, Greenwich,	do.	5815
ADONIRAM, Attleborough,	do.	5816
MORNING STAR, Springfield,	do.	5817
FRANKLIN, Greenfield,	do.	5817
RISING SUN, Nantucket,	do.	5818
ST. PAUL'S, Boston,	do.	5818
MONTGOMERY, Bath,	do.	5820
NEW JERUSALEM, Wiscasset,	do.	5820
JERUSALEM, Hallowell,	do.	5820
MOUNT ZION, Stoughton,	do	5820

Communications to the Grand Chapter, may be directed to JOHN J. LORING, Grand Secretary, Boston.

NOTE.

It will be noted that the later Records indicate a considerable indecision on the part of the Grand Chapter with regard to places of meeting in Boston; committees being frequently raised to secure a place for the next meeting after—and all this without a single sentence indicating the reason why this action was deemed necessary. The facts, as we get them from other sources, seem to be, that in 1818, the splendid hall fitted up in the new Exchange Coffee House for the use of all the Masonic bodies in Boston was consumed by fire, with a great proportion of the Masonic paraphanalia, probably including properties belonging to the Grand Chapter.—This hall had been but recently occupied, and its destruction seemed to put the fraternity afloat for a season, and led it to seek only temporary quarters. The next meeting of the Grand Chapter, a month after the fire, was held at the Commercial Coffee House. The old hall in Ann St., now North St., which had been abandoned, was again temporarily fitted up for meetings, and there the Grand Chapter assembled for a year or two, until a lease had been taken of apartments in the Old State House, where for nearly ten years the fraternity found a home. In 1832, the Masonic Temple, now the U. S. Court House, was erected, and of course that at once became the permanent home of the Grand Chapter. Between the time of leaving the Old State House and entering upon the enjoyment of the pleasant places in the Temple, meetings were held in Washington Hall, on Washington St., opposite Franklin. Thus it will be seen, the Grand Chapter changed its quarters many times—from Ann St. to the Exchange Coffee House, from the Exchange Coffee House to the Commercial Coffee House, from the Commercial Coffee House to Ann St. again, and from Ann St. to the Old State House—all within the period from 1817 to 1821.

The earlier meetings of the Grand Chapter had been held at the Green Dragon Tavern, a place of historic note as connected with revolutionary times. This property has, for more than a hundred years, (since 1764,) been in the possession of St. Andrew's Lodge of Boston. Early in the century, the Hall in Ann St. was fitted for use, and there the meetings of the Grand Chapter were held until 1817, when it removed to the Exchange Coffee House. This was the most magnificent building in the city, and probably the largest hotel building in the United States. There the fraternity, which had been scattered in various halls, was first centralized, and united in preparing and decorating a place for their common occupancy on a lease of ten years. These quarters were probably the handsomest and most convenient of any the craft had dedicated in the whole country. In November, 1818, they were consumed by fire.